



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

PO Box 116, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

Phone: 573/526-9100 Fax: 573/634-7966

E-mail: mosema@mail.mo.gov



Situation Report Winter Flooding Event March 19, 2008, 10 p.m.

UPDATED INFORMATION IS IN BOLD

SUMMARY

A cold front slowly moved across Missouri beginning Monday and brought locally heavy rains to much of the State. The National Weather Service reports rainfall amounts around the southern half of the state ranged from 2 to 10". At least five persons have died in Missouri due to weather-related events. A MoDOT worker was killed in Greene County while setting up a barrier. Another person died in Reynolds County after being swept from a bridge by high water. Greene County officials report a second man died there after his car was pushed off the road by floodwaters. A fourth victim was recovered from a truck in Bollinger County. Lawrence County officials report a body swept into floodwaters was recovered today there. MoDOT reports **209** locations on state roads are currently closed due to flash flooding.

Gov. Matt Blunt signed two State of Emergency Executive Orders for the severe weather and flooding that has struck Missouri. The executive orders activated the State Emergency Operations Center allowing state agency resources to assist local jurisdictions with their emergency response, and activated the Missouri National Guard to assist with protective action.

The SEOC has been activated to a Level Two and is now operating on a 24-hour basis.

County Reports:

Barry County – Significant flooding in Monett and minor flooding in Cassville. Water is receding this afternoon. No sheltering in the overnight. Five water rescues in the last 24 hours.

Bollinger County – Several vehicles were washed off Highway 72 east of Marble Hill. There are concerns over capacity of lift station – They are still functioning as of Wednesday, March 19, 2008. Two shelters are open and several homes and businesses have been flooded. County requested state assistance in accessing residents in about 30-50 homes. One person confirmed dead – Driver was found in a flooded truck that had been swept into the water. National Guard is on site (5 vehicles/10 persons) are doing welfare check. Zalma evacuated last night (approx 40 people). One shelter for them, will probably have everyone set elsewhere later today. Ten businesses and seven homes affected in Marble Hill.

Boone County – City of Columbia reports a privately owned dam breached near Broadway and Highway 63 Tuesday. The water went into a nearby creek. No reports of damage to homes or roads from the breach.

Butler County – **Highway 60 is closed east of Poplar Bluff. Traffic is being diverted onto Business 60, but that area is being threatened by high water as well. Several reports of levee breaches have come in during the day south of Poplar Bluff, apparently affecting some residents and roads. An additional report of a levee breach is being investigated tonight. Black**

River Coliseum is continuing to shelter people. DNR reports a Boil Water Order has been issued in Poplar Bluff.

Camden County– Many low water crossings covered. Part of Rt “BB” and part of Rt “H” are closed. Watching the Climax Springs area closely. The Little Niangua, Big Niangua and the Glaze are impassable and will be for two to three days

Cape Girardeau County – Several private levees have been breached and others are being monitored. City of Cape Girardeau reported a lot of street flooding. **Evacuations complete in Allenville and Dutchtown areas. A few people did not want to evacuate in Allenville. Many major highways remain closed, including Highways 25 and 74. About half of county roads are under water and one county bridge is out of service.** Pets and large animals are being assisted.

Carter County– Low water crossings are closed and it appears many were damaged. Numerous water rescues have taken place. Some flooding reported in Grandin. Sandbagging underway in Van Buren to protect homes and businesses as a record river crest is expected soon. Four people expected to be sheltered tonight. There are problems with phone service in rural areas. High water has prevented officials from doing much damage assessment yet.

Cedar County – Minor flooding at this time. A section of Highway 39 is closed. One shelter is on stand-by.

Christian County – More than 50 roads reported closed. James and Finley Rivers, and Wilson’s Creek, are out of their banks. 6”-9” of rain and two water rescues reported. Sandbags are being used in Ozark to protect businesses near the river. Evacuated three homes in the northern part of the county.

City of St. Louis – No issues to report at this time. Officials are monitoring the situation as area waterways rise.

Dade County – Several low water crossings are out with many more covered. Route “K” is still closed. No requests at this time.

Dallas County – Damage assessment is going on at this time. One bridge has been washed out. No injuries and no requests for this time.

Dent County – Low water crossings are underwater and most county roads are impassable. Officials are reporting several swift water rescues. Considerable amount of county has road damage. No shelters at this time. Officials are monitoring situation with one private dam but no assistance requested at this time.

Douglas County – Roads and some bridges are still covered. Five highways are closed. No evacuees and no shelters at this time.

Franklin County –Twenty-seven roads closed at this time. Two State highways are also closed. County is opening a shelter and others may be needed. No injuries reported. No shelters in Union. City of Union will be closing some local roads as the water rises. Officials are concerned about commuters not being able to get back to their homes tonight due to rising water. Some voluntary evacuations have taken place in Pacific. There are concerns about the effect the expected near-record crest of the Meramec may bring later this week.

Gasconade County – 12 roads closed. Most low-water crossings have been damaged. One house in Owensville had a basement collapse.

Greene County – Two fatalities have occurred related to the weather during the day. County reporting five swift water rescues. Approximately 55 roads are closed due to flooding and one bridge is out. Republic and Springfield have some street closures. One shelter was opened with just a few people there.

Howell County – Several roads closed, including Routes “H” and “Z”. Had a water rescue. One person from Old Franklin moved to a hotel due to rising water at their home.

Iron County – Sixty percent of roads from Bellview to Des Arc are water-covered. Half of City of Des Arc is under water. One bridge is out there and others are threatened. One water rescue and one vehicle rescue has taken place. 15 homes and businesses have been damaged in City of Des Arc. Schools are closed. One shelter with 6 people in the county.

Jasper County— Record crest reported on Shoal Creek today. 4 vehicle and 2 residences were evacuated. No casualties or evacuations.

Jefferson County – DNR reports it has been notified about two propane tanks in the water and being swept downstream. Several homes have been flooded around the county. Some low water crossings and bridges are affected but no major roads have been lost. Large river crests are the primary problems. Concerns over residents in southern end of the county already being stranded. Officials are monitoring several private dams and levees for possible breaches and overtoppings. Two shelters are now open.

Laclede County – An estimated 20-30 homes and 10-12 businesses have been damaged or destroyed by flooding. **Interstate 44 near mile marker 142 is now closed in both directions.** Hundreds of county roads and low water crossings were damaged. Two businesses and 5 homes were evacuated. One shelter was opened today.

Lawrence County – Officials report the body of an individual missing after being swept off a bridge was recovered today. Several county roads and bridges are still under water. City of Aurora has been using sandbags to help with flooding.

Madison County – Roads have some damage, but all major roads are open. No evacuees and no shelters.

Maries County – Situation has been improving and water is receding from many low water crossings. **The Gasconade River continues to rise and is expected to soon come over Highway 63 south of Vienna. MoDOT is making plans for an alternate route once it is closed.**

McDonald County – Four water rescues within the County. Southwest City lift station is underwater. City of Noel sewer pipe has broken (again). They have at least 100 homes and businesses underwater.

Miller County – County reports several roads and low water crossings were affected. Debris is clogging some culverts.

Montgomery County – Most low water crossings are affected. A bridge on Co. Rd 191 collapsed (Little Loutre Creek). Route “J” was closed.

Newton County – Several home rescues have been taking place in the Joplin area due to high water surrounding them. Shoal Creek crested today. All roads near the creek were closed. Water receding in Neosho.

New Madrid County – Some minor power outages reported earlier but power is restored. Some sandbagging going on. Howardsville had some water issues. No shelters open.

Polk County— County has received about 4 to 6” of rain. Three water rescues have taken place and rivers are reaching their crest. One bridge was damaged near Fair Play. Route “H” is closed in Pleasant Hope, as well as the school there. County Rd. 215 is closed.

Pulaski County – Heavy rains have caused major flooding. Major protective measures ongoing. Many roads closed causing travel complications. Damage to buildings and equipment reported. Emergency evacuation of some homes required.

Reynolds County – Major damage reported in city of Ellington, with 30-50 homes being evacuated. Several homes and businesses there were flooded. Smaller streams are starting to recede. Black River is coming up. Lots of road damage throughout the county. About 100 homes and 20 businesses are affected. **The shelter in Ellington is now closed.** Damage assessment process is getting started in Ellington.

Ripley County – **Current River receding in Doniphan. Some residents of Naylor being evacuated. Officials estimate eight businesses and 10-15 homes have been damaged. Two propane and one diesel tank that were in the water have been stabilized. One more tank is still lodged in debris in the water and not accessible at this time.** Some water rescues have taken place and one family was re-located to a local hotel.

St. Charles County – Some scattered transportation issues being reported so far. No shelters have been opened, and no evacuations. No requests for assistance at this time.

St. Clair County – Rivers have crested in the county. Water was still across Route “C” but expected to be re-opened today.

St. Francois County – 25 homes in jeopardy. Three homes were flood damaged. 25 county roads closed. Highway 221 in the county is now open and overall situation is improving. City of Bonne Terre Community Lake had a dam with a blocked overflow but officials report the water is now going down and situation has stabilized. No shelters are open at this time.

St. Louis County – **Officials report St Louis County Parks closed due to flooding at Lower Meramec Trail/Butler Lake access. Considering projected water levels, numerous highways and major roads are expected to be affected by high water. Those include: I-44 and Highways 109, 141, 30 (Gravois) and 21 (Tesson Ferry) and affect residents in several cities. St. Louis County EOC will be activated but hours are to be determined. The Valley Park Fire Protection District and Valley Park Police Detail are taking steps to re-position outside the anticipated impacted area. The County Police Mobile Command Center has been deployed to the Valley Park area.**

Ste. Genevieve County – Several roads and bridges are flooded. One bridge near Minnith has several feet of water over it. City of Ste. Genevieve is closing its levee flood gates today due to rising water on the Mississippi River.

Shannon County- Extra precautions are being taken with LP gas tanks in the area by reinforcing the ground connections to the tanks. Major flooding reported across the county, with lots of road damage. In Winona, 50 homes and three businesses are damaged, 17” of water reported in school, some streets not accessible.

Scott County – Some homes in Chaffee and Oran areas reportedly flooded. Officials rescued one man from a submerged tractor. Numerous flooding and road closures throughout the county. A nursing home in

Chaffee was evacuated as a precautionary measure. School Bus was off the road (no children on board). There was a breach at a basin near Oran but it has been contained. No assistance at this time.

Stoddard County – More than 6,000 sandbags have been distributed around the county. County EMD reports workers sandbagged one business near Puxico and sent additional bags to that area. Some additional small breaks in some levees have also occurred. A reported breach on a levee along the Castor River is being investigated. Two shelters are on standby.

Stone County— City of Galena remains flooded, but water is going down after a record crest. An estimated 30 county houses and mobile homes have been destroyed or washed away. The water treatment plant in Galena is under water. Water is also in the bank and post office. Many county roads are still closed, as is Highway 413 north and south of Galena. Galena had four people in their shelter and one stayed overnight. Approximately 10 homes evacuated. A 7,000 gallon Propane Tank is loose and possibly leaking. DNR is on the scene. There is a diesel tank adjacent to the propane tank that may add to the problems.

Taney County – A little over 4” of rain in Forsyth. No water rescues. Hollister evacuated three trailer parks. One shelter open with one person stayed overnight. Table Rock Dam was to begin releasing water today.

Texas County – No roads closed. Piney River is out of its banks.

Washington County – City of Irondale reported roads are flooded in and outside of the city. No injuries or evacuations are being reported.

Wayne County – City of Piedmont is most heavily affected area. City water service is down and the county’s largest rural supplier is down also. The city has received some donated water but officials **are requesting** more. Phone service is reported to be back up. A Boil Water Order has been issued for Piedmont. Major roads are out in the county. About 300 homes affected. Tetanus shots are being arranged through the County Health Nurse. One shelter remains open with about 25 people there.

Webster County— More than 50 roads remain blocked off by water. Additional roads may be closed as the water goes down and damage is discovered. All rivers in the county are out of their banks. Crews are working on restoring sewer pumps in Marshfield. Two water rescues occurred Tuesday near Seymour. 24 cleanup kits received from Red Cross for affected residents. County may need more road signs from MoDOT as additional closures take place. 47 homes at risk of being flooded out.

Regional Reports:

Region D – Multi-Agency Coordination Center (DMACC) – DMAC Center ordered 13,000 sandbags for the counties in southwest Missouri that needed them. 23 water rescues and three casualties are being reported. Still some concerns over floating propane tanks. DMACC was scheduled to close today.

Region E – Mutual Aid – Assisted with request for HazMat personnel to secure two floating tanks in Ripley County. DNR called in to evaluate sheen on water near service station in Doniphan. Three levee breaks reported. Cape Girardeau Fire sent a water rescue team to Butler County

State Agencies

State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) has now activated the State EOC to a 24-hour basis at Level Two.

Department of Conservation – Conservation agents are assisting local units of government. Assisted with the Zalma evacuation in the overnight. **Will be sending bulldozers to Reynolds and Wayne Counties to assist local jurisdictions and assisting with water system infrastructure issues in Wayne County.**

Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) – DHSS assessing affects of flooding on local nursing homes, hospitals and health clinics. Sent three nurses to assist in Piedmont.

Department of Mental Health (DMH) – Checked their group homes and none have reported any major problems.

Department of Natural Resources (DNR) – SERO-EER coordinated responses to secure dislodged residential propane tanks in Winona and Ellington. DNR also mobilized response prop boat to assist local and state officials with life-safety missions for residents stranded by high water in multiple locations (Carter County and Wayne County). Water Resources staff continuing to monitor river levels and interpreting/disseminating information to stakeholders. Management is looking into issuance of waiver(s) pending any Executive Order being issued by the Governor. DNR Regional Offices are assessing wastewater and drinking water problems throughout the State. Dam Safety staff responding to several water impoundments that are having safety issues. Haz Mat staff integrating with local emergency responders to address hazardous material issues. Information on issues, such as the closure of several state parks, can be accessed on DNR's website.

Department of Social Services (DSS) – Working with the American Red Cross to get local shelters open. **DSS reports 15 shelters are open around the state** with more on standby. Also assisting volunteer agencies by checking with fire departments for safety of foster children and checking on shelters to assist with caring for school children affected by flooding.

Department of Transportation (MoDOT) – District offices are assisting local Counties and Municipalities in closing highways that are covered with water and **to evaluate damaged bridges**. Road closures are available on Department's webpage. Critical areas of concern at this time include I-44 in Laclede County at 142 mile marker, Route 141/I-44 at Valley Park, **Highway 60 east of Poplar Bluff** and Highway 63 in Maries County at the Gasconade River. **Two rail lines are closed – BNSF from St. Louis to Springfield and BNSF and union Pacific from St. Louis to Arkansas. Another line – BNSF from Springfield to Memphis is open but being monitored. MoDOT employees directed to go to their local public health agency for a tetanus shot.**

Missouri Information Analysis Center – MIAC has been assisting SEMA in updating the situation throughout the State.

Missouri National Guard (MoNG) – Has teams moving forward to assist in Marble Hill and Piedmont. 27 National Guardsman have been activated for State Emergency Duty.

Missouri Office of Administration (OA) – **Several OA and Dept. of Conservation staff will be in Wayne County Thursday to assess the water system infrastructure in Piedmont and Patterson.** OA is on-site at State EOC to try to assist local jurisdictions with their resource needs. OA also monitoring possible effects of flooding on state-owned facilities. Several state schools were closed today due to area flooding.

Missouri State Fire Marshal – Mutual aid has been activated. HazMat teams are being dispatched to assist local units of government.

Missouri State Highway Patrol (MSHP) – MSHP is assisting stranded motorists and local communities in closing highways. The MSHP Mobile Command Post from Jefferson City is on standby to assist and the Region “G” Post was moved to Piedmont.

Missouri State Water Patrol – MSWP is assisting with water rescues in several counties **and are preparing to move personnel and resources to St. Louis area, It currently have 12 officers and seven boats in Cape Girardeau County to assist there.**

Non Government Organizations/Volunteer Organizations:

American Red Cross (ARC) is ready to assist with setting up as needed. **Working to get some more cots to Black River Coliseum in Poplar Bluff. Getting ready to start damage assessments.** Requests should be routed through 573.690.7527.

AmeriCorps – 18 volunteers have been assisting Butler County Fire Protection District. Others are assisting in distribution efforts in Piedmont and **in other efforts in Shannon, Carter and Wayne Counties. Staff is also on-site at SEOC.**

Missouri Humane Society – MHS will be deploying to affected area to assist with issues involving pets and companion animals.

Salvation Army (SA) sent cots, blankets and flood kits to Springfield and Joplin for staging. Shelters were set up in Poplar Bluff and Piedmont, and a request came in to open one in Carthage.

United Way - 211 – is for Non-Emergency calls only....only for information. 211 has received 19 calls to date.

Weather

Rain has ended most of Missouri this afternoon, **with mostly dry conditions forecast for the next few days.** Two-day rainfall totals included 9” in Ellington, 7” in Potosi, 11” at Clearwater, and more than a foot in Cape Girardeau. Several rivers in southwest Missouri have already crested at record levels and similar crests are expected soon along waterways in southern and eastern Missouri. **Black River is forecast to crest at 22 feet, which will be very close to overtopping.** There is a chance of some light rain or snow in some areas on Sunday, but high temperatures should be in the 50 to 60 degree range through early next week.

Point of Contact:

The State Emergency Management Agency can be contacted until further notice on a 24-hour basis at 573-526-9100.